

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0162] as follows:

--[0162] In the above-described embodiment, the following advantages can be obtained.

(1) Every application uses the authentication information stored in the authentication-information storage unit 10, and thus authentication information need not be provided for each application. That is, the authentication information can be unified.

(2) All the applications share the authentication module 7, and thus an authentication function need not be provided for each application.

(3) A plug-in mechanism loaded in the existing browser (originally used for starting a module for each application) can be used as a trigger for device authentication.

(4) When content requiring device authentication is to be downloaded, the application 8a, 8b, or 8c starts the authentication module 7 and device authentication is automatically performed. Therefore, processes of searching for/browsing content and using the content by the application can be seamlessly performed.

(5) Since a plug-in is dynamically added to the browser 9, an application other than 8a, 8b, or 8c~~8d and the like~~ can be added.--

Please amend paragraphs [0181] and [0182] as follows:

--[0181] In Fig. 9, line 61 indicates that this tag is an EMBED tag in accordance with modification 3.--

--[0182] Line 62 defines a MIME format in accordance with modification 3 and specifies the application 8 to be started.--

Please amend paragraphs [0193] and [0194] as follows:

--[0193] Line 71 indicates that this tag is an EMBED tag in accordance with modification 4.--

--[0194] Line 72 defines a MIME format in accordance with modification 4.--